File No. 230344 **Committee Item No.** 3
Board Item No. 14

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee: Budget and Finance Committee **Date** April 19, 2023
Board of Supervisors Meeting **Date** April 25, 2023

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OTHER **(Use back side if additional space is needed)**

☒	☒	Deed of Gift 12/19/1994
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Completed by: Brent Jalipa **Date** April 13, 2023
Completed by: Brent Jalipa **Date** April 21, 2023

[Authorization to Gift Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to Emerson College]

Resolution authorizing the San Francisco Public Library to gift the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to Emerson College.

WHEREAS, On December 19, 1994, the San Francisco Public Library ("Library") received an unencumbered gift of comedy albums and novelty recordings from Warren Debenham ("Debenham Comedy Recording Collection"); and

WHEREAS, The Debenham Comedy Recording Collection now includes more than 35,000 comedy and novelty recordings in a variety of formats, including vinyl records, 8-track tapes, audio cassettes, and compact discs; and

WHEREAS, A portion of the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection has remained at Mr. Debenham's residence because the Library did not have adequate physical space to accommodate the large collection; and

WHEREAS, The Library has determined that it does not have adequate physical space to accommodate the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection, nor adequate resources to preserve, catalogue and make the collection available to the public; and

WHEREAS, The Library undertook a search for other institutions that would have an interest in taking the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection; and

WHEREAS, Emerson College, located in Boston, Massachusetts, offers educational degrees with a concentration in Comedic Arts, including a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Comedic Arts; and

WHEREAS, Emerson College has informed the Library that it would gladly accept the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection, which Emerson College has the capacity to house, preserve, and make available to students through its programs and curriculum; and

WHEREAS, Emerson College has agreed to assume the cost of transporting the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to its campus in Boston, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Debenham has already gifted some items directly to Emerson College, including duplicate recordings, newspaper clippings, and ephemera; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Debenham consents to and supports the Library's gift of the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to Emerson College; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Public Library is authorized to gift the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to Emerson College; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors authorizes the San Francisco Public Library to execute a deed gifting the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to Emerson College.

Recommended:

/s/

Michael Lambert, City Librarian

DEED OF GIFT

WD

I, The Rev. Warren Debenham, of Berkeley, California,

I, _____, of _____, ~~San Francisco~~, do hereby make a gift of the material specified below to the San Francisco Public Library.

Being the sole owner of the material, I give this material (and any additions which I may make to it) unencumbered to the San Francisco Public Library and do declare that I made the gift of my own free will and without influence.

The material specified below shall be available to members of the public for use from NA, with the exception of the items asterisked below which shall be restricted from public use until NA. The material will be linked bibliographically through the online catalog and designated the Warren Debenham Collection. It will be a part of the Schmulowitz Collection of Wit and Humor.

Schedule of material donated:

NOVELTY - 8,908 records ~~$81,423~~ $73,493 WD
45 RPM - 10,664 records 23,252

as described on the attatched appraisal by
Jack D. Nelson, and the attatched computer listings.

In full accord with the provisions of this deed of gift, I hereunto set my hand.

DONOR: Warren Debenham **DATE:** 12/19/94

Signed in the presence of: Janice K. McInnis

On behalf of the San Francisco Public Library, I, Elizabeth Hope Hayes, Chief of the Main Library.

Signature: E. Hope Hayes Date: 12/9/94

C:Hope/Giftform - Dec.'93

27 September 1993

The Reverend Warren Debenham
143 Arlington
Berkeley, CA 94707

Dear Reverend Debenham,

I am pleased to present the following appraisal of your phonograph record colection consisting of LPs, 45s, EPs, 78s, and CDs. This evaluation is based on fair market value as determined by 24 years of experience with The Record House, Inc., of San Francisco, CA., dealing in rare and unusual records. Additionally, the following trade publications were used as references:

OFFICIAL PRICE GUIDE TO RECORDS (10th Edition-1992) Random House
OFFICIAL PRICE GUIDE, MOVIE TV SOUNDTRACKS AND ORIGINAL CAST ALBUMS (1st Edition-1991). Random House
RECORD ALBUM PRICE GUIDE 1977-1978 (Osborne/Hamilton)
OFFICIAL PRICE GUIDE FOR COLLECTIBLE RECORDS (2nd Edition) FOR POPULAR & ROCK RECORDS 1948-1978 (Osborne/Hamilton)
78rpm RECORDS AND PRICES (Soderbergh-1977)
OLDE RECORDS PRICE GUIDE 1900-1947 (Soderbergh-1978)

CATEGORY	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
COMEDY	10,248	$81,423
NOVELTY	8,908	73,493
CLEAVAGE	1,863	28,419
BEATLES	228	2,445
PRESLEY	161	1,933
RADIO SHOWS & MISC	1,726	12,726
45s	10,664	23,252
78s	8,327	19,690
	42,125	$243,381

Yours very truly,

Jack D. Nelson (Retired)
1750 Jackson St. (#106)
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109

SSN: 525-38-3684

Record House, Inc.
538 Larkin (near Sutter)
San Francisco, CA 94109
(415) 434-3254

7 December 1994

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to state that I, the undersigned, JACK D. NELSON, engaged in the buying and selling of phonograph records from 1969 through 1991. As manager and president of The RECORD HOUSE, Inc., it was my responsibility to receive and evaluate collections small and large, rare, hard-to-find, collectors' items for the purpose of resale, and to provide appraisals for insurance and donation for tax purposes.

JACK D. NELSON (Retired)
1730 Jackson St (#106)
San Francisco, CA 94109
(415) 923-1621

March 24, 2023

Michael Lambert
City Librarian
San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mr. Lambert:

I approve of my gift, the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection at the San Francisco Public Library, going to Emerson College, Boston, Massachusetts, where it will join the rest of the comedy collection at that institution.

Sincerely,

Warren Debenham

The Rev. Warren Debenham
143 Arlington Ave.
Kensington CA 94707

DocuSign Envelope ID: F38FFEB9-0D87-4F13-92DD-22B54E03DE9D

San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

March 24, 2023

Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Ms. Calvillo:

Attached please find an original single-sided proposed Resolution for the Board of Supervisors approval, which will deaccession the Debenham Comedy Recordings Collection (comedy collection) from the San Francisco Public Library (SFPL) and transfer the comedy collection currently onsite at SFPL and relinquish rights to future comedy collections to Emerson College in Boston. The donor has agreed that the comedy collection should be transferred to Emerson College to support the college's Comedic Arts curriculum.

The following is a list of accompanying documents

- Proposed Resolution
- Debenham Deed
- Debenham's written agreement to transfer the comedy collection from SFPL to Emerson College

The Debenham family and Emerson College would like to move the comedy collection to Emerson in the first two weeks of May 2023. Given their preferred timeline, we respectfully ask that this Resolution is heard in April.

The following person may be contacted regarding this matter:

Maureen Singleton, Chief Operating Officer
415.557.4248
Maureen.Singleton@sfpl.org

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Michael Lambert
C9DF0B3992E246F...

Michael Lambert
City Librarian

From:	Singleton, Maureen (LIB)
To:	BOS Legislation, (BOS)
Cc:	Reimuller, Katrin (LIB); Goldstein, Susan (LIB); HUBER, JEN (CAT); Lew, Lisa (BOS)
Subject:	SFPL Resolution to Deaccession a comedy collection
Date:	Monday, March 27, 2023 10:44:10 AM
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png image003.png Debenham Deed of Gift.pdf SFPL Debenham Comedy Collection Deaccession Cover Letter 3.24.23 - FINAL.PDF SFPL Debenham Comedy Collection Deaccession Resolution 3.24.23 - FINAL.doc SFPL Debenham Comedy Collection Deaccession Resolution 3.24.23 - FINAL.pdf Warren Debenham Letter to Authorize Comedy Collection to Emerson College.pdf

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All,

Attached for introduction at the Board of Supervisors is a Resolution to authorize the San Francisco Public Library to deaccession Debenham comedy recording collection and transfer to Emerson College. Also attached to this email are the documents listed below. Lastly, I am confirming the /s/ signature of the City Librarian.

- Cover letter from the City Librarian
- Resolution in Word format
- PDF copy of the signed legislation via DocuSign
- Deed of the comedy collection
- Letter of authorization from Warren Debenham to Emerson College

Please let me know if you have any questions, difficulty with the attachments, or if I need to correct any submissions. Thanks, in advance, for your time and help.

Sincerely,

Maureen Singleton

Maureen Singleton | Chief Operating Officer | San Francisco Public Library| Pronouns: she, her, hers
P: 415.557.4248 | E: Maureen.Singleton@SFPL.org | sfpl.org